WE CLAIM:

1. A method for transmitting data over the Internet, comprising transmitting from a client a first connection request for setting up a first transmission channel via an Internet connection to an Internet Server, transmitting from a client a second connection request for setting up a second transmission channel via an Internet connection to the Internet Server, wherein the first transmission channel and the second transmission channel bidirectionally transmit and receive, independently of one another in terms of timing, data between the client and the Internet Server over the Internet, the first transmission channel being used as a back channel for transmitting user data from the Internet Server to the client, and the second transmission channel being used as a forward channel for transmitting requests from the client to the Internet Server.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein dummy data are transmitted in the absence of user data in order to maintain the transmission channels.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein information is transmitted to the Internet Server in order to maintain the transmission channels, said information informing the Internet Server that there is an intention to transmit user data.

4. The method as according to claim 4, wherein data for operating and monitoring an automation system is provided over the Internet.

5. The method according to claim 4, wherein the client is an operator control and monitoring system which initiates the transmission channels as a DCOM

object, and in the setup of the connection to the automation system is made via a DCOM server.

6. A device for transmitting data over the Internet, comprising a data processor which can be connected to the Internet of a client, the data processor being provided for setting up a first data connection in the form of a first transmission channel and a second data connection in the form of a second transmission channel to an Internet Server, wherein the first transmission channel and the second transmission channel bidirectionally transmit and receive, independently of one another in terms of timing, data between the client and the Internet Server over the Internet, the first transmission channel being used as a back channel for transmitting user data from the Internet Server to the client, and the second transmission channel being used as a forward channel for transmitting requests from the client to the Internet Server.

7. The device according to claim 6, wherein dummy data can be transmitted so as to maintain the transmission channels in the absence of user data.

8. The device according to claim 6, wherein the transmission channels are capable of informing the Internet Server that there is an intention to transmit user data.

9. The device according to claim 6, wherein data for operating and monitoring an automation system is provided over the Internet.

10. The device according to claim 9, wherein the client is an operator control and monitoring system which initiates the transmission channels as a DCOM object, and in the setup of the connection to the automation system is made via a DCOM server.